



Riley County 4-H Newsletter

March 2006

Ready, Set, CAMP!

Youth in grades 2-7 are invited to join us for a celebration at Rock Springs, **June 21-24, 2006**. This year's camp will feature special activities to celebrate 100 years of Kansas 4-H!

Cost to attend 4-H camp this year is \$115 per 4-H member and \$160 for any of your friends that would like to come to camp. So, think of one or two and invite them to attend.

Camp is a time for you to hang out with friends, meet new people, try new stuff like archery, canoeing, horseback riding, stream exploration, and much more.

You will meet kids from Dickinson, Geary, Morris, Pottawatomie and Wabaunsee counties at camp. We are called the "Purple Power Pack" camping group.

I invite you to come and explore Rock Springs this summer during 4-H Camp. Check out the registration form included in this newsletter. Turn this form and your money into the Riley County Extension Office by May 18. Then get set to spend 4 days of fun and adventure at Rock Springs 4-H Center, south of Junction City.

I look forward to camping with you. See you at Rock Springs!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the 4-H members who participated in this year's Gavel Games competition. Nearly 150 4-H members participated in the day's events. Special thanks also to Randolph Ramblers and Blue Valley High School for serving as hosts for this event. We appreciate your hospitality!

Fair Superintendents and Junior Superintendents

It is hard to believe that the fair will be here in 6 months! In order for Riley County to have a successful 2006 fair, we need your help. Past superintendents and project leaders have received a letter, asking for volunteer help. All fair divisions are in need of volunteer help. If you have not served as a superintendent, and would like to volunteer as a Superintendent or Junior Superintendent, please call Janice at the Extension Office by **March 15**.

Scholarship Applications

Minor revisions have occurred to the Riley County 4-H Scholarship Application. Both the Riley County 4-H Scholarship Application and the State 4-H Scholarship Application will be available for high school Seniors through college Juniors to apply for. Applications are available now. All applications must be returned by **March 1**. Late applications can not be accepted, so please plan accordingly! Interviews for the Riley County 4-H Foundation Merlin Dellen Memorial and Kiser Leadership Scholarship have been set for **March 27** at the Riley County Extension office.

4-H Happenings-----

4-H Council
Monday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.
Pottorf Hall



Each club is allowed to have 5 voting representatives: 3 youth and 2 adults at 4-H Council.

Agenda Items Include:

- *Red Wheel Sales Begin
- *Gavel Games Summary
- *Club Day Summary
- *2006 Fair Theme Selection
- *Select 2006 Achievement Celebration Date
- *Fair Food Stand

Newsletter Items

If you have something for the 4-H newsletter, please submit them to Janice or Andrea by the 10th of every month. Newsletters will be emailed or mailed the third week of every month.

Foods & Clothing Session

Junior leaders, project leaders and Superintendents are invited to participate in a special brainstorming session on **Monday, March 6; 6-7:30 p.m.** at Pottorf Hall. Bring ideas for county-wide activities and suggestions for fair classes. Snacks will be provided. If you have questions, contact Sharolyn at the Extension Office.

In Case of Severe Weather

We have entered the severe winter weather season of the year. If a 4-H event must be canceled or postponed, the announcement will be made on KMAN 1350 AM radio.

Congrats to Dickinson County Quiz Bowl Participants

Six Riley County 4-H members participated in the Dickinson County Horse Quiz bowl on February 4. Intermediate team members Gunnar Naughton (Bonfire); Rachel Hull (Little Apple); Avery Fowles (College Hill) and Tannan Naughton (Bonfire) had a first place finish out of 13 teams! Senior team members Melissa Moore (Flint Hills/Be Busy) and Killian Naughton (Bonfire) paired with two Stevens County members to achieve a 3rd place finish out of 8 teams! Way to go!

Good Luck to Judging Participants

Eleven Riley County 4-H members will be participating in Horticulture and/or Photography Judging contests at Wichita Garden Show on Saturday, March 4. Best of luck to Sinclaire, Max and Reid Erdwien, Susie Parks, Jared Rogers, Jacob and Wade Stroda, Annette and William Trieb, Brennan Walter and Klara Zurek.

National 4-H Calendar Contest

4-H members are invited to submit entries for the 2008 National 4-H Calendar. National 4-H Council would like to hear about your favorite 4-H project. Winning stories will be featured in the calendar. Stories should tell what, when, where, why and how these projects are important to you. Stories are limited to 125 words or less. Entries are due **April 30, 2006**. Email entries to Maria Cascioli at mcascioli@fourhcouncil.edu

Project Page-----

Riley County 4-H Foundation Flash

This 501c3 corporation was started in 1985 as a way to take private donations and use them to help the Riley County 4-H program. One benefit is a reduced cost to attend **4-H Camp**. Ten dollars of each camper's fee and counselor fees are also paid for by the Riley County 4-H Foundation.

Rabbit Club

New members are always welcome, as well as those wanting to learn more about rabbits. For more info call Tom or Cherie Trieb at 785-456-2080.

Centennial Ornament



A special commemorative Riley County 4-H ornament is available. The ornament was designed by the Riley

County 4-H Centennial Committee. Stop by the Extension Office to purchase yours today. Come check out this great gift idea, and keepsake for Riley County 4-H alumni. Cost per ornament is \$3.

Horse ID Papers

New for the 2005-2006 4-H year: All members enrolled in the Horse project must submit ID papers for the horse(s) they intend to show. Papers are available at the Riley County Extension Office. Completed papers, including a photograph of the horse, are due **May 1, 2006** by 5:00 p.m. Contact Greg McClure with questions or for copies of the form.

Fort Hays Judging Contest

Check out judging opportunities in Livestock, Crops, Entomology, Horticulture, Photography, Life Skills on **March 18**. Pre-registration is due **March 1**. Livestock judging will begin at 9:00. All other contests will feature come and go judging from 10 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Check out <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/ellis/4-HHandouts/2006FORTHAYSJUDGINGCONTEST.pdf> to learn more.

100 Year Celebration

The Riley County 4-H Celebration committee has been busy planning fun ways to showcase 4-H. The quilt will soon be completed. Thanks to clubs for their blocks! History boards will be making a tour of the county this summer. Watch here for more news on upcoming activities.

Multi-County Photo Workshop

Shawnee County 4-H is sponsoring a photo workshop for **Sunday, April 1, 2006**. Choose from 8 classes ranging from beginning photography, to snapping moving photos, special effects, advanced composition and more. Cost to attend is \$5 per person. Registration is due March 15.

King and Queen Contest

In 2006, all 4-H members age 15 and older as of January 1, are eligible to apply for the 2006 Riley County 4-H King and Queen. Applications are available from Organizational Leaders or from the Extension office. Responsibilities are listed on the application. Contact Janet Kiser at 776-9936 or Janice at 537-6350 with any questions. Applications are due **March 1, 2006**.

Project Page-----

State 4-H Contests 2006

The following is a run down of what is known at this time for State 4-H Contests in 2006:

Horse – Wichita – June 27
Wheat Judging – Cowley County – August 11
Dairy – Kansas Junior Dairy Show – August 2006
Horticulture – KSU Campus – August 26
Livestock – KSU Campus – August 26
Crops – 2006 State Fair – September 9
Photography – 2006 State Fair – September 10
FCS Judging – September 16
Poultry – 2006 State Fair – September 16
Dog Quiz Bowl – Rock Springs – Oct. or Nov. 2006

Colorado Extreme Outdoor Adventure

Join youth and adults from across the state of Kansas on an outdoor adventure sampler featuring rock climbing, white water rafting, mountain biking, hiking, fishing, canoeing/kayaking and caving **June 24-July 2** in Colorado. The trip is limited to 36 participants from across the state. Teens must be 14 as of July 1, 2006 in order to participant. Cost to participate is \$500 with the first \$100 deposit and health form due **April 1**. The remaining fees are due May 15. Contact the Extension Office to view a Powerpoint presentation on the trip and to collect registration materials.

Sheep Day

Youth Sheep Day will be held at Kansas State University on **Saturday, March 11, 2006**. Cost to attend is \$15.00. Registration is due on Friday, February 24. Matt Nichols will be the featured speaker. Topics to be covered include feeding and management, proper selection and evaluation and basic fitting and showing. The event will be held in Weber Arena.

Youth Lawnmower Clinic

Youth in grades 4th – 6th are invited to attend a Lawnmower Clinic at Pottorf Hall on **Thursday, March 30; 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.** The clinic is sponsored by the Manhattan Breakfast Optimist Club and Riley County Extension. Supper will be provided. Learn about mower safety, mowing for money and other topics. A registration form is available on our web page or call the office, 537-6350.

Notice to Club Reporters

Preparations are already being made for the 2006 Riley County Fair! We want a story from your club on the fair. Story ideas include: interview a member or two and highlight what they plan to do for fair; share a club fair tradition; pick a project and share ways to get that project ready for fair or an idea of your own. All articles are due **May 1, 2006** at 5:00 p.m.

Shooting Sports Congratulations

Congratulations to Lindsay Bulk with a 2nd place finish in the 13-15 division; Jacob Stroda with a 3rd place finish in the 13-15 division; Wade Stroda with a 1st place finish in the 9-10 division and Grant Adams for their BB gun tourney in Beatrice, Nebraska. 4-H shooters also participated in the Wabaunsee tourney on February 4 in air pistol, air rifle and BB gun. Grant Adams placed 1st in aggregate and Jared Rogers placed 3rd in aggregate for Air Rifle. The BB Gun team of Grant Adams, Lindsay Bulk, Briana Stadtlander, Jacob Stroda, Wade Stroda and alternates Brennan Walter and Kyle Weishaar placed 1st. Briana Stadtlander placed 1st in aggregate, Grant Adams placed 2nd in aggregate and Jacob Stroda placed 3rd in aggregate for BB gun. Austin Becker, Shawn Messer and Daniel William also participated.

Katie Knopp Gaetke **Discover How 4-H Made a Difference**

CLOVIS, N.M. – Imagine, getting paid to do what you love ...

Katie Knopp Gaetke is an F-16 fighter pilot, one of only 71 female fighter pilots in the U.S. Air Force. She admittedly loves her job, but is mindful of the roots that helped her earn her wings.

Her dream job didn't just happen.

Gaetke grew up in Manhattan, Kan., but credits attending space camp at the Kansas Cosmosphere (in Hutchinson, Kan.) as a sixth grader with igniting her interest in flight.

Though already a good student with an interest in math and science and a variety of 4-H projects, Gaetke focused on the sciences in high school and searched out educational opportunities with U.S. military academies and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program.

The ROTC program interested her because it provided an opportunity to both learn and serve, and she applied for a four-year ROTC scholarship - and got it.

Gaetke used the scholarship to earn a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston.

In beginning to fulfill her commitment to the Air Force, she earned a private pilot's license in a Cessna 172 before graduating to a T-37 trainer.

"Flying a single-seat fighter is an incredible thrill, but it's also an awesome responsibility," Gaetke said. "Air Force pilots are tested at each stage of training to make sure they're ready for that level of responsibility."

Gaetke earned a spot in the year-long training program for the F-16 to make her dream job a reality.



As the eldest of three children, Gaetke credits her parents, Joe and Nancy Knopp, with inspiring a can-do attitude toward life, toward service and responsible citizenship. Her experiences as a 4-H member in Manhattan also provided valuable opportunities to practice leadership and learn how to build community, she said.

"4-H is a unique organization because of the way it incorporates family and youth of all ages. I learned important skills through woodworking and clothing and foods projects, but I learned much more from watching the older kids in my 4-H club and taking pieces of their leadership and public speaking styles to incorporate into my own," Gaetke said. "As I grew older, I had opportunities to take on leadership roles and practice those skills, and I never took lightly my responsibility to turn around and mentor the younger kids."

"Learning to seek – and fulfill – leadership opportunities has been important in pursuing my education, building my career, and, now, serving my country. And, even though it's been years since I led a 4-H meeting, every day I use the leadership, speaking and team-building skills I began learning in 4-H."

Gaetke, who was a 10-year member of the College Hill 4-H Club in Manhattan, Kan., has made an additional 10-year commitment to the Air Force and said that she views continuing service as an opportunity to build community in a larger world.

Story by:

Nancy Peterson

nancyp@oznet.ksu.edu

[K-State Research & Extension News](#)

Kids Konnection-----

Camp Counselors Needed

Teens age 14 and older as of June 21, 2006 are invited to consider the role of camp counselor **June 21-24, 2006**. Applications are now available for you to complete and submit by May 18. Counselors ages 14 and 15 are required to pay a \$30 fee, due June 15. All counselors are required to participate in training on June 20 and June 21. Join us for camp this year at Rock Springs 4-H Center. College age students are also invited to apply.

Newsletter Questions Contest

Congratulations to:

Annette Trieb, Strong-Satellites
Graham Grable, Freedom Seekers
Haley Grable, Freedom Seekers
Mackenzie Wahl, Riley Rascals
Abigail Wahl, Riley Rascals

The correct answer was "June 21-24." Be one of the first five to call and correctly answer this month's newsletter question to win a 4-H surprise. All those who call and answer correctly will be listed in next month's newsletter.

QUESTION: What is the first name of the former Riley County 4-H member who now is an F-16 fighter pilot? (See page 5 for a hint!)

Citizenship In Action

A number of Riley County teens are traveling to Topeka, Kansas, for a visit with our state legislators on **February 19-20**. Heather Banks, Lauren Everett, Megan Fink, Katie Friesen, Luke Hull, Emily Jardine, Killian Naughton, and Amanda Oakley will be representing Riley County.

CWF Informational Meeting

We are about 5 months out from officially beginning Riley County 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus 2007! Teens who will be 14 as of January 1, 2007 and older will soon receive an invitation for this program. An informational meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m.** at Pottorf Hall. Hope to see you there!

Game Idea

Mystery Sacks

Lunch sacks or small boxes will work well for this game. Collect 5 bags or 5 boxes. Find five small objects that can fit inside each sack. Write a clue to describe the object inside the bag or box. Tape the clue to the outside of the bag or box. Each member should have a piece of paper and a pencil. Pass each bag or box around the circle to each member. Each person should write his or her guess down. See who can guess the most. Examples of objects include CD, bracelet, roll of tape, spoon, etc. Example clues might be "Round with music" (CD); "Sparkle jewelry" (bracelet); "Sticky on a roll" (roll of tape); "Best for soup" (spoon).

4-H Discovery Days- Are You IN?

Jump IN and join youth IN power to explore your INterests and INvent possibilities. Youth 13 and older as of January 1 are INvited to attend this conference INvolving classes, hanging with friends, field trips, games and more on **May 30-June 2, 2006**. Take INitiative and INquire at the Extension Office to learn more. Registration INformation will be coming soon! Are you IN?

March

- 1 Scholarship Applications DUE
- 1 State KAA Applications DUE
- 1 King & Queen Applications DUE
- 3-4 Photo Extravaganza, Wichita Garden Show
- 5 Horticulture Judging, Wichita Garden Show
- 6 Food & Clothing Session, 6-7:30; Pottorf Hall
- 6 Leader Meeting; 6:30 p.m.; Pottorf Hall
- 6 4-H Council Meeting; 7:30 p.m.; Pottorf
- 6 Red Wheel Sales Begin
- 15 Registration DUE for Multi-County Photo Workshop
- 18 Fort Hays Judging Contest
- 18-26 Spring Break
- 24-25 Ambassador Conference, Rock Springs
- 30 Lawnmower Clinic, 4:30-7; Pottorf Hall

April

- 7 Red Wheel Sales Totals DUE
- 8 KSU Open House
- 10 Discovery Days Registration Due
- 20 4-H Celebration Committee Meeting; 5:30 p.m.
- 22 Red Wheel Product Pick Up at Pottorf Hall

Sincerely,

Andrea L. Schmidt, CEA 4-H Youth Dev.